THE MISSIONARY
HERALD
AT HOME AND ABROAD

Holiday Edition
1943

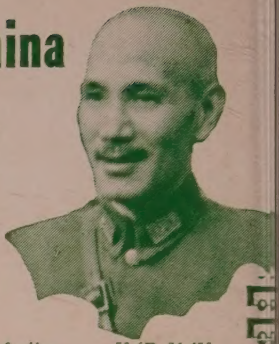
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is given!
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy stars go by;
While mor - tal won - dering love.
So God im gs of his heaven.
Cast out our us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth!
Where meek souls will re-ceive him, still The dear Christ en-ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el! A - men.

The Chiangs of China



An unparalleled story of Christian leadership in revolution and war

By ELMER T. CLARK

HAD CHINA not had Chiang . . . *HAD CHIANG* not had Mayling . . . *HAD MAY-LING* not had her Soong background and training . . . *HAD SOONG* not had the religious experience as well as the educational opportunity during his sojourn in America it is quite possible that the course of human history might have turned to unspeakable tragedy in Asia.

WHO ARE THESE CHIANGS AND SOONGS? What is their social, economic, political and *spiritual* heritage? With what power have they excited the imagination and lifted the hopes of the peoples of the world? The questions are generously answered in this new book, *THE CHIANGS OF CHINA*—a story not only fascinating to read but also basic for understanding Asia today! ***Generously Illustrated!***

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At Home and Abroad

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THE tragedy of mankind is its impassive, obdurate refusal to welcome the saviors of the world. For the saviors have not been lacking—not in science, not in music, not in spiritual faith and life.

They have come, but whether it be Galileo or Wagner or our Lord himself, with what impenetrable inhospitality has the race refused them!

This puts the world's salvation squarely up to us, the common men and women. The saviors come—God sends them; it is we, the masses of the people, who cry, No room!

HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK

Editorial

One of the most savage conflicts in all the Civil War took place when the armies of the North and South came to grips outside Richmond.

Suddenly—one night—the Confederate lines were lighted from end to end by the flare of huge bonfires. Astonished Union sentinels learned that word had just been received of the birth of a son at the distant home of the Confederate commander, General Pickett. The bonfires were in celebration.

Whereupon, General Grant ordered the cessation of all Union hostilities, and in sympathetic celebration bonfires were lighted along the Union lines. Under a flag of truce, a message was dispatched to General Pickett and his men bearing the felicitations of the Northern army.

This month—in the midst of lengthening casualty lists and crashing air raids—Christians the world over will pause to remember the birth of The Child in his humble Syrian dwelling place. But there'll be no truce in celebration—Christmas Eve may well be a night of terror for millions.

Nevertheless, the Star of Bethlehem, shining the more brightly against the terrible backdrop of war, will proclaim afresh its eternal message that our only sure and certain hope is in Christ! Remember—Christmas has outlived all the world's Caesarisms and Hitlerisms.

In addition to its blessed promises and assurances, the Star of Bethlehem will challenge all genuine disciples of the Lord Jesus—to share more bountifully than ever with those who suffer and mourn and hunger. Only as the light of that Star is reflected in a sacrificial world-mindedness on our part will humanity eventually know peace and hope and Christ.

Never has the world so needed the light of ancient Bethlehem's Star!

Andrew Vance McCracken

Of course, there'll be a Christmas!

Sidney J. Burgoyne and Sons

By Mary M. McClelland

WHEREVER your son spends Christmas this year—India, Africa, China, or the islands of the South Seas—the light which once shone on Bethlehem will bring him the comfort of its unfailing promise!

Neither hatred among nations, nor suppression of minorities, nor the twisted thoughts of dictators will be able to dim that light!

Children of Brazil, where there are 100 Congregational churches, enact Bethlehem's story

True, thousands of Americans will spend this Christmas far from friends and familiar places.

But thousands of them will spend it in lands which our missionaries have brought into the Christian World Community—and wherever there are Christians there will be Christmas!

Letters from our men in the services and from our missionaries tell heart-warming stories of how they shared last Christmas—and will share this Christmas in the far corners of the world.

From them we learn what "unexpected dividends" are being received from our 130 years of missionary work: by our soldiers and sailors, in friendly helpfulness and priceless personal contacts; and by the whole cause of missions, in a new appreciation of its value by boys who probably always regarded missions as "sissy stuff" until they saw it in action.

This letter came from one of our soldiers in Guatemala: "Our friends in the Protestant Missions made us feel right at home. I don't believe that anyone could have done any more for us than they. On Christmas eve we went caroling and delivered gifts of fifteen dollars each to three Missions which have made us feel welcome in a social as well as a religious way.

"To end a happy holiday season the American ladies served a waffle supper at the chapel for all the fellows who could get off. The party was a very joyous affair, and to close the evening a very inspirational midnight service was held."

This Christmas observance brought great joy and satisfaction to our missionaries, too.

"We had the joy and pleasure of the company of many of our

Mary M. McClelland is a staff member of "The Missionary Herald," succeeding Margaret Schafer who joined the WAVES.

Yuletide candle-light service in China where many of our boys will observe Christmas

American lads for Christmas," writes one of our missionary nurses.

"I think I enjoyed them more than anyone else because I was pretty lonely for my brother across the Atlantic somewhere. The boys had been working for weeks to have a good fund ready to make cash donations to three different groups and also to have individual gifts for various of the mission families who have become their friends. I had the fun of helping with most of their planning and shopping."

Our missionary nurse relates further the joy of going caroling with the men—of prayer in the little chapel between carols—and how many boys had Christmas dinner at missionaries' homes and said it was the next best to being with their own families!

Sadiya, Assam, is an important station on the new road to China which is to replace the Burma Road. Missionaries decorated the mess hall with poinsettias and greens—decorated a pine tree in the truest American Christmas tradition—made stacks and stacks of sandwiches—and unpacked all sorts of goodies.

"How delighted the men were!" wrote one of the missionaries. "We had our organ there, and groups gathered around to sing. One of the boys played. Just as we had everything ready, the American officers arrived; they too 'raved' about how delightful it was. . . . Captain Jones took charge of the sing—Christmas songs and carols. It united us in a special way."

After refreshments, the Captain asked a missionary to close with prayer. The boys were hearty in their thank-you's. One said, "If only my mother could know what a grand evening this has been! She is 76 years old." Several said it was even better than last Christmas which they had spent in camp in the U.S.A.!

King Herod and his ministers are portrayed by church boys of Mandalay in Upper Burma

Then when the missionaries returned home, they found a blue army duffel bag on their veranda —"Merry Christmas" written all over it. It was bulging with several dozen cakes of soap, toothpaste, razors and blades, packages of chewing gum, tins of vegetables, and even a five-pound bag of American sugar! Small things, but great sacrifices in a land where American sugar and chewing gum are priceless treasures! "On top of the pile lay a letter from the 'fellas' wishing us a good old-fashioned American Merry Christmas, with 182 rupees and three dollar bills,

The girls of a Pacific island church school in a scene from their Christmas pageant

'which we would like you to use to get something by which you will remember us always, in years to come!' "

Those boys had discovered not only new friends among the missionaries, but new values. You may be sure that they also, "in years to come," will "remember always" those outstretched hands of Christian friendship.

From the jungles of New Guinea, a soldier wrote about his Christmas experience:

"Last night our camp had about a half dozen visitors—they were natives. They came on their own . . . sat in a little circle inside the big circle . . . the moonlight filtered through the palms.

"They started to sing 'When the Roll is Called Up Yonder.' They didn't know all the words, but they knew the tune. Some of them couldn't speak English, but they knew the English words to this. . . . At the end of their visit they thought to do just the thing that every one of us had been too busy to think of—they sang two Christmas carols, 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'O Little Town of Bethlehem!' "

Picture that scene: our soldiers, grim, weary, homesick, too hard-pressed even to think of Christmas—being reminded of "peace, good will to men on earth" by natives of the jungle whose Christian tradition is very, very young.

The soldier's letter went on to say, "This is part of the work of missionaries. As far as I'm concerned every nickel ever spent on missions has been justified. And I know many others share this thought with me.

"I personally have never seen nor heard anything so impressive. The old quotation is very definitely true, 'Cast your bread upon the waters and it shall return to you after many days.' Sometimes it returns before you think it will or can."

Yes, there will be a Christmas this year for our boys in the distant corners of this earth—where our missionaries have gone to preach and practice good will.

And many of the young men who share these Christmas observances will return to be citizens of our postwar world—with a new world viewpoint and a devotion to our growing missionary enterprise!

Consult Your Plan Book

"The minister who plans will use the Sundays in Advent to prepare his people for Christmas, so that when it comes they will be prepared to apprehend its deep ethical, social and spiritual importance: a corrective to current pessimism and assurance of the final victory of righteousness."

"The Epiphany Season which follows Christmas is to be used to emphasize the truth of the universality of the Christian Gospel, the way in which it transfigures life in all of its relationships, and everywhere transmutes the commonplace experiences of life into joy and light."

HELPING THROUGH PRAYER

By Fred Field Goodsell

Dear Friends:

WE can help *through* prayer when we are helped *by* prayer.

I was struck by the penetrating wisdom in some sentences of the address by Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States at Laval University last May: "The world today is full of tragedy. But perhaps one of its greatest tragedies goes unnoticed and unmarked. This is the conscious hunger and thirst of millions for something which they could be totally incapable of putting into words, but which they passionately need. . . . If man's awareness of his own insufficiency were thus made articulate, he would understand that his real need was a knowledge of how to open his heart to God in prayer.

"*Prayer*, through which at all times and in all places men may speak to God, with complete assurance of perfect understanding. *Prayer*, by which men may feel their own weakness made strong by the support of God's sovereign power. *Prayer*, by which all human fears, failures, anxieties, sorrows can be brought to the foot of the Cross, and made one with the great redemptive act that the Cross commemorates. *Prayer*, by which those at home may feel near to those far away, with whom they are knit close in the all-embracing love of God. *Prayer*, in which day by day we commend the souls of brave men who have died for their country into the hands of an all-knowing and merciful God.

"Small wonder if men and women everywhere are unsatisfied and ill at ease, since in their hour of greatest need they have lost that which was indeed their birthright—the knowledge of how to pray."

I believe in New Year's resolutions—if they are not too numerous or lightly entered into. One of the best you could make this month, and about which one should think hard and plan deliberately, would be to set aside, even at the cost of some pleasant but not imperative preoccupation, a little time each day for quiet meditation and prayer. I know that increasing numbers of the readers of THE MISSIONARY HERALD are doing this, but many under whose eyes these lines fall are not giving the time they know would be well spent in this way.

Choose the time in the day when you can be uninterrupted, and not too sleepy; have your Bible at hand, have at hand also some tested book of devotional studies; resolve to give *daily* meditation and prayer a real trial; do not be discouraged if you do not sense results immediately, but have faith and be persistent. God will surely pour out a blessing which your heart will hardly be able to contain.

Please think this over, then if you resolve to do it, reach for a postcard and tell me. If you want suggestions for helpful devotional reading, include that in your message.

Yours sincerely,

Fred Field Goodsell

Three Lions

Christmas dinner? These refugee children hope for no more than enough vegetable soup

Christmas Is Meant for Children

By Hawley R. Willson

"WE aren't doing anything for Christmas this year—except for the children. After all, Christmas is meant for children."

How often one hears adults say this when they begin to think of what to give.

This Christmas there is more than ever to be done for children. The children of Greece and Russia, the children of western Europe—refugees in neutral countries, the children of our churches in England, the millions of starving children in China.

Children everywhere in the track of war, crying out for food, clothes, and kindness. Needing especially to be reassured by kindness.

For the fourth year, the Committee for War Victims and Services is asking you and the children of our churches to share your Christmas with needy and homeless children. Here is the story of our Christmas fund.

Just before Christmas, 1940, the full fury of war broke upon

Mrs. Willson is the assistant secretary of the Committee for War Victims and Services.

Acme

A generation of famine—shrunken children doomed in Greece unless Christians help

"It's great to have food again," says a Greek girl—fed by kind Christian gifts

England, destroying churches and homes and reducing to ashes the personal possessions and means of livelihood of thousands of families. Your Committee for War Victims sent out an emergency message to all Congregational Christian ministers asking our children to share Christmas with the children of the bombed churches in England.

Soon came a flood of contributions. Christmas parties were given up, willingly, gladly; traditional Sunday School treats were converted into nickels and dimes, savings long hoarded for gifts were dumped into the Sunday School treasury to be sent in. In five weeks our young people contributed the grand sum of $13,000.

Christmas, 1941, the theatre of war had widened, needs increased. Again the Committee for War Victims appealed for a Christmas fund, again the children responded and many adults caught the spirit and helped. Gifts amounting to $32,616 were received in December.

Christmas, 1942, still greater need. The response, $69,922, from the children and adults of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Christmas, 1943, will soon be with us. Three-fourths of the world is engulfed in unimaginable agony but there remains one thing we can do. We can help.

These Chinese children, deformed from slow starvation, are picked up on city streets by our church workers and nursed back to health in homes made possible by your gifts

Above all we can help the children. Christmas is meant for them.

Cannot we again double the Christmas fund? What better lighting for the Christmas tree than to know that children in China, Greece, Russia, England—needy children wherever they can be reached—are receiving in double measure the signs and tokens of our sympathy?

And here you see the results of your gifts for the helpless victims of this war. Give a few cents a day—make a Christmas gift—your return is a smile worth a million

THE GIFT OF SERVICE

By James C. Flint, Director Service Committee

THE young people of our Congregational Christian churches, looking this year for the kind of Christmas gift most truly in the spirit of the season, will be interested in what the Million Hours Plan has to offer. It calls for the gift of service.

The Plan is sponsored by the National Council of Pilgrim Fellowship and the Congregational Christian Service Committee. Through it our young people will, in the name of Christ, give no less than a million hours of volunteer service this coming year. Such a gift is truly in the spirit of Christmas and will make Christmas come all through the year.

This is a very appropriate Christmas gift, for service is a gift of one's own self. A gift with this personal factor is uniquely Christian, for the story of that Holy Night is the story of a God who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.

The gift of service is one which, within itself, carries the Christmas song of good cheer, of peace on earth and good will to men. The aim of the Million Hours Plan is to direct our young people into those paths of service which demonstrate the Christian desire to be of help in time of trouble, building God's Kingdom on this earth through mandeeds of love and mercy.

The major share of service given under the Million Hours Plan will be rendered in your own community. There is a real reason for this. As Christian people, we cannot expect to play a large part in solving the problems of the world unless we recognize that those problems exist in our own back yards.

World problems are but the accumulation and projection of all the little problems which are found in every city and town in this country. We cannot expect to have peace and justice and understanding and love as the distinguishing features of our postwar world, unless they exist in everybody's community, and in everybody's nation. The Million Hours Plan reminds all those enrolled in it that the broad way to good will on earth begins on the Broadway of their own town.

In brief, the operation of the Million Hours Plan calls for the enrollment of our young people in Service Units in their own churches. As each young person enrolls, he pledges himself to no less than ten hours of voluntary service during the coming year. This pledge entitles him to the rank of Christian Apprentice.

Progress is then made toward the rank of Christian Worker. Young people enter the Fellowship of Christian Workers upon their own application, after they have proven themselves faithful in the discharge of their service pledges. It is generally understood that at least one hundred hours of service work will be given before any person asks to enter the Fellowship of Christian Workers. In addition, each applicant is expected to have shown faithfulness in his own personal religious life and loyalty to the work of his own church.

Young people who desire to make a wise choice of Christmas gifts this year should find out about the Million Hours Plan. Write your State Superintendent for information.

The City
BUILT ON GOLD

By Ray E. Phillips

"Fundamentally the world has no need of a new order or a new plan, but only of an honest and courageous application of the historic Christian idea."
Prime Minister Jan Christian Smuts

IT used to be the days that passed too quickly here in Johannesburg, South Africa; then it was the weeks, then the months!

Now we are losing track of the years—they vanish so quickly! For there is so much to do, so many opportunities beckon us, and so many doors are open for service.

II

Ours is still the exciting job of maintaining contacts with individuals and organizations of a number of different racial groups —all in a state of flux.

Those on top—the "haves" (mostly white)—are slowly learning the lessons of stewardship; those underneath—the "have-nots" (the blacks, browns, and a few yellows)—are clamoring for fuller opportunities in economic and other spheres.

The present war is simply a larger edition of the conflict which is continuous between various opposing forces in this land; with here and there a setback, and occasionally a gain, for those who work toward an order of life which provides freedom of opportunity for every individual.

Jan Christian Smuts, whose Christian leadership is an example to the rest of the world

To those who sense the meaning of the struggle, not only for Africa, but for the whole of this vast world, it seems to be a real fight.

And to a missionary social worker it seems vastly worth while to contribute everything he has or can acquire in method and technique for transforming selfishness into the large ideal of "each for all and all for each, under God."

III

Our first responsibility here is the Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work, which graduated its first class of students in December of 1942.

For two years we had ushered twenty-two picked African students through varied courses in the Bible, sociology, economics, psychology, physical education and the arts. Actual field work supplemented classroom instruction.

Results to date show all the members of that class quickly employed as social welfare investigators and case workers, directors of recreation, and by the Y.M.C.A. for wartime services. One graduate is teaching this year but will be area organizer of Girl Scouts next year.

Calls for workers are coming from private and public bodies—openings we cannot fill until our present class has completed its work.

Prospects for the future are splendid. Students are now coming to us from every part of the Union of South Africa, and from three territories outside, including Uganda.

There has been discussion in Colonial Administration circles in London of making our school the training center for social workers for British colonies and mandated areas in Africa.

Wouldn't some of you church

The old and the new stand side by side in Johannesburg, the city built literally on the gold mines. Native workmen are playing an important part in its construction

Black Star

k Star

Keep out! Strict rules bar South African Negroes from contacts with white people

folk like to plant a seed of this nature for the people of Africa, to grow into a plant whose branches and leaves, with proper care, may well extend into and bless every corner of this great land?

IV

A second large responsibility is the organization of recreational services in a military camp near Johannesburg for training native recruits.

I selected several good Africans to assist me, bought goods to stock a small dry Canteen, provided tables, games, radio, cinema equipment, and started.

This small beginning has become an enterprise that casts the proverbial mustard seed into deep shade! Today, we have 148 trained Africans operating huts in military camps all over the Union and in the Middle East. As the director, I travel 2,500 to 3,000 miles per month up and down the Transvaal, occasionally going into the Orange Free State, the Cape and Natal.

As the only civilians allowed in these camps, our men are the friends and advisers of the native soldiers who want to know a thousand things about this strange life.

What, you ask, is the future of this enterprise, undertaken at the request of the newly constituted Y.M.C.A. Council? Can these fine young men, all trained in missionary schools, be retained for postwar service in the scores of cities and towns where the industrialization and urbanization of a primitive people is taking place almost within a generation? We ponder this matter in odd chinks of spare time and discuss ways and means with our wisest African friends.

V

Our Bantu Men's Social Center, in the very heart of Johannesburg, continues to be the cultural center for Africans and their organizations.

The Johannesburg Social Welfare Board, on which both Dr. James Dexter Taylor, my colleague of the American Board, and I are members, is the central executive board of the 90 or 100

Ray Edmund Phillips has served as a social service missionary in Africa since 1918 under the auspices of our American Board. This article is the fifth in the series, "Ventures in Christian Learning and Living."

social and charitable organizations in Johannesburg.

The Action Committee of the National Movement for Social Security in South Africa is working out a program to place before the Government, similar to the Beveridge Report in England; in this country of many races and wide social and vocational diversities, social security measures will probably be directed toward increases in welfare services until the mass of the native people is more completely industrialized.

VI

My wife could add many more to this list of activities; foremost among her activities is her work with the Talitha Home and the Detention House for delinquent native girls.

Under the control of a strong women's committee, and the personal care of sympathetic matrons and staff members, these native girls, many of them runaways from the rural districts, are retrieved for lives of decency—prepared to start life again in changed surroundings and with sympathetic counselors.

VII

What a place this is for human contacts, human problems and maladjustments! What opportunities lie before us for service through organizations already in existence or through new bodies to be created!

What demands constantly face us from people to whom life in the city is a new, puzzling, even terrifying experience—their old life, its associations, customs and standards rapidly disintegrating, and a new life "powerless to be born" except through the cooperation of the white folk who have brought them to the city but are often too concerned with their own problems to care!

These fortunate South African Christians have a chance to teach and to study. Our missionaries there open new lives to them by the establishment of schools like this

YOU CAN DEPEND ON THE CHAPLAIN!

BY FREDERICK L. FAGLEY

Official U. S. Navy Photograph

One of our chaplains planned this Christmas party for sailors of the United Nations. Members of the British Royal Navy join some of our boys to sing familiar carols

"THE boys on Guadalcanal are already talking about Christmas," wrote a private to his mother on October 1.

Christmas, 1943, will loom just that large in the thoughts of millions of Americans. Those at home will be thinking of the young men and women who are far away. These absent ones will be thinking with new appreciation of their homes and all that they stand for.

But let us not center our thoughts on the empty chairs except to pray to Almighty God that those who are making such great sacrifices may, with His guidance, speedily finish their task and be restored to us again.

Rather let us rejoice that, wherever they are, there is at

Frederick L. Fagley is the Associate Secretary of our General Council.

least one person who is making their Christmas as merry a one as possible!

That person is the chaplain who, in every branch of the service, day and night, in season and out, in training camp and on the front, gives of his energies without reservation in ministering to the young people whose spiritual welfare is his responsibility.

No, the war cannot stop Christmas! Nor will the chaplain confine his activities of this Season to the safety of the Post Chapel. He will be wherever the Christmas message is needed —and he will be bearing that message, no matter what circumstances attend him.

This moving letter came from a chaplain at the battle front:

"It was Christmas Day. I had come up that morning as usual to the aid station. . . . There had been a sharp engagement the night before and our wounded were being evacuated to the hospital. . . . This was war in the jungle—ugly, violent, revolting. Human beings, like beasts of prey, stalked each other in a green hell. . . .

"Yet, it was Christmas Day, and as I looked into the faces of the men gathered there in that aid station, I knew what they all wanted to hear. So, gathering them around me, I read the story of our Lord's Nativity. 'Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord . . . He shall be great, and He shall be called the Son of the Highest . . . And of His kingdom there shall be no end . . . Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace among men of good will.'

Official Signal Corps Photo

The soldiers who must spend Christmas in camp find our chaplain a willing friend

"No conclusion needs to be drawn. . . . It was just that there, even in the midst of war, we found the peace of Christmas in our hearts. We finished the service with the Pater Noster, and then the men returned to take up their grim duties. But as they went away, I heard a few of them repeat to themselves . . . 'And of *His* kingdom there shall be no end.' "

Other Christmas observances may be less dramatic, but they will be no less heartfelt. Thousands of chaplains will lead or sponsor services of Christmas carols. Some of our boys will sing them on Judean hills under stars shining as clearly as on the night the angels sang of peace on earth. Many will think very

seriously about the hoped-for day of peace and righteousness for which they risk everything.

Different faiths and races will join in the Christmas services, a participation symbolic of the hoped-for understanding which the day of peace will bring. Last year Handel's *Messiah* was sung in a New England camp, with the soloist a Catholic chaplain, the narrator a Protestant chaplain, and the interpreter a Jewish chaplain.

Through the efforts of chaplains many nearby communities have shared the Christmas observances of the soldiers. Thousands of churches here at home and in England sent choirs and a pastor for services on a Post. Men and women from the camps were invited to homes for Christmas dinner. Truckloads of parcels were prepared and sent into the camps for those who could not leave their posts that day.

No matter how limited his resources, every chaplain will plan whatever Christmas service he can. If he has a chapel—and more than nine hundred chaplains do have—the service will be very much like that in the church at home, with traditional decorations and music.

Or perhaps the chaplain will have to use more imagination in planning his Christmas service. Last year a chaplain and his unit were on an island of the South Seas where there was no greenery but palms, and the days were so hot that artificial snow would have seemed out of place. But, remembered the chaplain, Palestine had great desert reaches with scanty vegetation. Here on the island easily cut coral was available, so he and his men decided to make a truly oriental stable of coral blocks, roofed with palm thatch.

"But palms are for Easter," someone objected.

"Here palms are Christmas greens," replied the chaplain.

So, with the white sand, the green palms, the coral blocks, and candles, the Christmas scene was depicted once again in all the beauty of its simplicity.

Chaplain E. H. S. Chandler, former pastor of our Central Church, Jamaica Plain, Mass., tells how planes dropped bags of gifts to his men in isolated parts of the Aleutians, how a large transport arrived with decorations and every ship and mess hall had its Christmas tree. A midnight service was held and all during Christmas day services were conducted by the chaplains, while choirs visited all the ships in the area.

You may trust the chaplain. He will not fail to bring to your boy or girl at least a part of the Christmas joy which you covet for him or her. In this as in all things, it is he who stands ever as their friend, guide, and interpreter of the deeper things of the spirit.

The chaplain's opportunities for service to individuals are countless and continuous.

As our armed services grow, there is a very great need for additional chaplains. As our churches and their pastors realize what is at stake, that need will be met.

PEACE ON EARTH

By the Hon. Francis B. Sayre
Former High Commissioner to the Philippines

IT is a good time for Christians to be alive.

Through these perilous days when everywhere around us are gathering shadows and fear and suffering, men and women are searching their hearts and seeking new pathways of reality.

Now is the time for Christianity to come into its own.

II

All of us know that a mere military victory, important and essential as that clearly is, will not bring us a lasting peace.

At the conclusion of the First World War, because the basic problems growing out of a materialistic civilization were left unsolved, we gained only a short respite between wars and failed to achieve a lasting peace.

Military victory gave us our chance, but we lost it. America, engrossed in her own affairs, had no battle flag ready—no clear-cut vision of the goal ahead. We scrambled back to "normalcy," which meant business as usual, selfishness rampant, and a general unconcern for humanity and the rest of the world.

The situation now is infinitely more grave. If we lose our chance again, our plight will be critical indeed.

At such a time comes the crashing challenge of Christianity. If Christians honestly believe that what Christ taught was true, Christianity has a tremendous part to play in the memorable and creative days through which we are passing.

What, then, is the task of the Christian today?

After the war is over, Christians are vitally and tremendously concerned with the making of the peace.

Lasting power is won, not through the compulsion of material force, which only builds up hate and counterforce, but through the winning of men's minds and hearts. That is what Christ taught and believed. And whether we happen to be Christians or not, that is one of the inescapable verities of life.

III

A Christian peace demands, *first*, the elimination of the old conception of balance of power—a conception premised upon each nation's self-sufficiency and utter unconcern with the welfare of other nations or with humanity. The Christian conception of human brotherhood will take its place. Nations will find the means of coöperating and working collectively for common ends—or there will be no lasting peace. This means the setting up after the war of an international control and limitation of the building of armaments. Toward this great end America must assume a responsible leadership.

A Christian peace demands, *secondly*, that, following Christ's insistence upon the supreme value and sacredness of human personality, the peace treaty shall not be based upon the exploitation of human beings—white or black or brown or yellow—in colonial or other areas in Europe, or Asia, or Africa, or America. No peace based upon a policy of exploitation can be a stable one, and no arrangement or treaty which denies or cripples human freedom, for which humanity has fought and bled and

died since the beginning of history, can be enduring.

Thirdly, a Christian peace will be based upon economic freedom. If in each country selfish blocs of producers, in the interest of artificially maintained prices for their own products, press continually for heightened trade barriers so as to exclude foreign competition, the result will be the strangulation of international trade which constitutes the very life-blood of modern industrialized nations. A Christian peace will be built upon the suppression of discriminatory and anti-social practices in the field of international trade and finance.

IV

What profoundly concerns you and me is that we cannot leave the task to statesmen alone—even to Christian statesmen. The redemption of a people depends upon something far more fundamental than outward form or enacted law or paper programs.

Statesmanship unsupported by the people cannot build a new world. All that statesmanship can do is to point the way.

The actual achievement of a New World depends, in the last analysis, upon the deep convictions and desires and efforts of the great rank and file of common people throughout the country.

And if the New World is to be built upon Christian fundamentals, how else can the foundations be laid save through our work—through each one of us imparting by our lives and by our words to the individuals whom we touch a truer and a deeper understanding of Christ and of Christ's truth?

V

We who believe in Christ—and love him—face heavy responsibility today. We know that only as humanity builds on the fundamentals that Christ taught can it go forward. And as Christ trusted his little group who loved him and believed in him 1900 years ago, so he is depending upon us today.

The world everywhere around us is dark with suffering and tragedy —because men have been building on false foundations. They have not understood.

Until humanity comes to believe in the principles of Christ and to build upon them, no possible economic programs or social reforms or political arrangements or international conventions, no amount of goodwill or peaceful desire or progress of the arts and sciences ever can build a civilization which will satisfy the insistent needs of humanity.

First things must come first. In a world "so various, so beautiful, so new," but so torn by confusion and struggle, so darkened by suffering, the primal task of those who have caught the vision of Christ's message to men must be to impart to others this burning light.

VI

What does this mean for you and for me? It means that with devotion and consecration each of us must radiate the light of our faith to those around us. Other Christians, burning with a like conviction, attracted by that light, will find in us sustaining encouragement and help. Little groups of Christ-lovers will spring up here and there—passionate, consecrated men and women; and upon these little groups or "cells" throughout the nation, throughout the world, a great regenerating and recreating movement, if God so wills, can be built.

The time seems ripe. But first the groundwork must be prepared. True Christians must be at work upon this immensely vital movement.

Our task is clear. God grant that we may not fail Him!

Istanbul Hospital Serves Fliers

It is no military secret that fourteen of the American fliers interned in Turkey on their way back from bombing the Ploesti oilfields in Rumania have been treated at the American Hospital of Istanbul, the head of which is Dr. Lorrin Shepard, who continues as an American Board missionary although the budget of the hospital carries his salary. Ladies of the hospital board and of the community have arranged a plan whereby someone provides some special "eats" for these lads each afternoon at tea time, and in fact appears at the hospital to be their hostess. "More than the good things to eat, I think they appreciate seeing American women and having a chance to chat with them," says the letter which reports them. One's memory recalls the similar service to wounded soldiers which Cyrus Hamlin rendered in the Crimean War. The picture of the hospital appears on the opposite page.

Now It Can Be Told

Ever since silence closed down over our missionaries in the Philippines, the Board has been deeply concerned about the baby that was expected in the family of Rev. and Mrs. Alvin H. Scaff in the spring of 1942. On October 21, 1943, word was received through a Red Cross message sent by a missionary of another Board: "Inform Congregational Board Larry Scaff born April 22." His whereabouts and that of his parents is still an unsolved mystery, which someone on the *Gripsholm* can probably answer.

The "Gripsholm" on Time

In addition to the newpaper reports of the exchange of nationals of Japan and the Americans at Mormugao, the Board has received a cable from the American Board group who are now on the *Gripsholm* acknowledging the cables of greetings received there and saying that all the party were in high spirits. The *Gripsholm* reached Port Elizabeth, South Africa, on the scheduled date, and is still expected at New York on December 2.

Letters written from the group at Weihsien before the repatriates left report in June that all were "in good health and spirits" and in July, "camp health fair despite recent intestinal fever epidemic. Now health spirit high." Dr. Lucius Porter was "water coordinator for Kitchen 3, some five hours daily overseeing pumping and dishwashing," and was

The American Hospital of Istanbul where American fliers interned in Turkey were treated

also giving two lectures a week. Dr. Stanley Wilson was attending lectures on Thomist philosophy and giving lectures on organic chemistry. The internees were doing all the work of all kinds—baking, cooking, laundry, cleaning up camp, carpentering, etc.

Plague in Foochow

A tragic consequence of the upset conditions in Fukien Province in China has been the steady spread of bubonic plague down the river from Shaowu to the more populous regions near and in Foochow. Bishop Sargent of the Anglican Church (Church Missionary Society) fell a victim to it in its pneumonic form, and a newly elected Chinese bishop escaped death only by a miracle. Its continued presence in the province through the winter is a serious menace.

Typhoons, a tidal wave and a spoiled rice harvest force the spiral of inflation to giddy heights. One missionary reports that he had had no lard, meat, fresh eggs, fruit or peanuts for the last seventeen days of August. The Board has just increased salaries to meet the money end of this situation. Miss Eunice Thomas has typhoid, the second case in spite of inoculations. Miss Susan Armstrong has reached Shaowu; and Miss Helen Smith, Kunming en route to Shaowu.

November 10, 1943

MODERN

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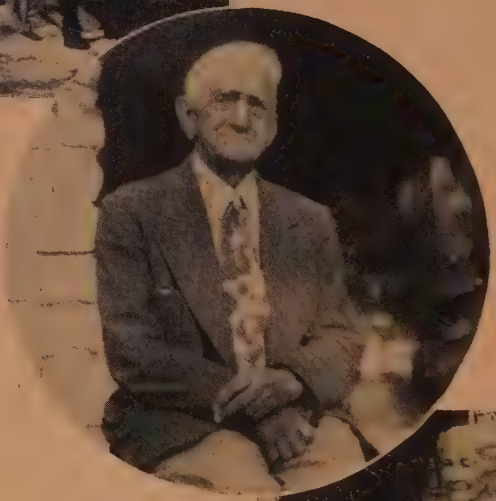
CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANCE

BY FRANK J. SCRIBNER
Secretary, Pension Boards



HAVE you ever thought how much of life's satisfaction comes from extravagance? Among our most precious family possessions are several things that we never ought to have allowed ourselves: a set of Stevenson, the memory of a trip to Europe, a Graflex camera, some record albums of Beethoven, and so on. One of the reasons why I should not care to be rich is that then I could never have the guilty

thrill of buying something that I could not afford! He was a wise man who said, "Give us the luxuries of life, and we will do without the necessities."

But extravagance is relative. To one woman it means a mink coat, to another it means coffee with sugar in it. To one man it means a crusing yacht, to another a pair of fleece lined slippers. To one family it is a box at the opera, to another a well on their own place that saves a quarter mile walk after water. Let me tell about a few extravagancies.

Rest and Peace and Privacy

He is a widower, badly crippled by arthritis. He was welcome to a home with his son, but he yearned for the extravagance of a home of his own. When he was given a piece of land, he built a cabin on it, largely with his own crippled hands.

But his savings fell short by fifty dollars of paying for the lumber. He did not need to pay. His creditor was not pressing him. But somewhere in his life as a minister he had acquired the extravagant idea that a debt is a debt. When a Christmas check arrived from the Ministerial Relief Division, it went (with a few dollars more) to make the home completely his own. In a recent letter he wrote, "Every day I thank God for the quiet and peace and privacy of this little home."

For a Dog

He, too, was a widower. He was entirely alone in the world with one exception: "a Boston bull terrier, my pal and constant companion, just about the smartest dog in the world." And part of one check went to buy—a sweater for the dog! Extravagance, certainly. By no stretch of imagination can a bull terrier be termed a necessity. But those few dollars brought comfort to dog and man alike.

Light at Eventide

She was a minister's widow, and she was going blind. It was a long time before we heard of it. At last she mentioned it, almost casually, with the remark that it really did not matter, "as I have very few years left on earth, anyway." I suppose that she was right, by all rules of logic. But the Emergency Fund (which we reserve each year out of the Christmas Fund) provided the extravagance of expert treatment. And at evening time there was light.

Independence and Self-Respect

He lives in a Home maintained by a fraternal organization. He is, in his own words, "well provided with the necessities, a comfortable individual room, and respectable clothing." But there is nothing for extravagancies—postage and stationery, carfares, the infrequent adventure of a meal at a restaurant, a subscrip-

tion to a favorite magazine. He says, "Your gift provides independence, and a measure of self-respect."

The Christmas Fund

The regular grants of the Ministerial Relief Division have no room for extravagancies, even of the sort outlined above. They do no more than meet the barest necessities of food, clothing and shelter. The Christmas Fund makes possible a little more: the extravagance of a roof that does not leak, an adequate pair of glasses, often (alas!) a grocery or fuel bill paid at the end of the year. Last year you provided $80,000 for such extravagancies. Will you help again?

Make your check payable to The Christmas Fund, and send it to the Ministerial Relief Division, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

The Unit Plan
A Christmas Reminder

By Frank J. Scribner

THERE is just one more month in which to complete the Unit Plan for 1943, and assure Original Plan annuities for 1944.

The feeling of our denomination last year seemed clearly to be, "We will not fail our retired ministers and their wives." I am certain that this feeling continues and that the success of the Plan in 1943 will be repeated for 1944 with the continued loyal support of laymen, ministers and churches.

As December begins:

Remember that upon the Unit Plan depends the welfare of 1200 ministers and widows. Their maximum annuity is $500 ($300 for a widow). Unless the Unit Plan continues its success they must live on less.

Remember that the Unit Plan must succeed every year. A falling short will have immediate effect. The Original Plan is now making its payments upon a year-to-year basis and, unless 1943 closes with the Unit Plan objective reached, reduction of annuities begins next April.

Remember that we welcome gifts of U. S. Bonds, Series G. Purchase the bond in the name of The Annuity Fund for Congregational Ministers, Incorporated in New Jersey, and be sure to advise the Unit Plan that you have made the purchase.

Send your gifts to your Conference chairman, or to the Unit Plan, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

A Family With Many Members

By Ernest M. Halliday

As we approach the Christmas season, family relationships loom large.

Mother and Dad are thinking about presents for the kiddies who are at home, and about remembrances for the older boys and girls who have left the family circle. Letters and photos make up in part for the absence of those unable to return to the dear home group at Christmas.

Once again affection blossoms in new beauty in the hearts of those who have lived and worked together under a common roof. Christmas is pre-eminently family time.

This happy season of good will is also a time when those of us who belong to the home missionary family may well call to mind the wide circle of our fellow-workers, and attempt to picture them in their varied fields of labor—north, south, east and west.

Though environment may differ widely, our aims and efforts tend to one great end! We seek to help our country to be Christian. In this singleness of purpose, we enjoy a fundamental unity.

Christmas will come with many novel experiences to the Vernon L. Bookers in Nome, Alaska. They went to this, our farthest point north, from Newark, N. J., in early summer, flying a good part of the way.

They are working with might and main in this soldier-civilian community. Here they learned to pull down

Vernon Booker, minister of our church farthest north: Federated, Nome, Alaska

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Ernest M. Halliday is the general secretary of the Church Extension Division of the Board of Home Missions. This is the seventh article in the series, "America and Its People," appearing monthly.

the shades and go to bed while the high-riding summer sun was still bright—to look for killing frosts and ice in August, and to plan for their church activities through a long and very dark winter.

"We are all well and happy, and thoroughly enjoying this experience," writes this young and vigorous home missionary.

Now skip down to Georgia for a chat with Peter Doherty and his wife.

His city is full of soldiers and their wives. The church seeks to include them in its ministry. The better to do this, it was necessary to improve the building. Here is an excerpt from Peter Doherty's latest report:

"Men who were working hard, long hours for our Government and traveling quite a distance to their work found time to work on our program.

"Often they worked until ten p.m., although these men had to be at work at five a.m. Of course, our building project—plumbing, wiring, painting—was not done alone by these church men and friends of the church, but when all was completed, these same people dug down into their pockets to help pay the bill.

"I told our folks that the Home Mission Board would help us with some money if it was absolutely necessary, but I wished they would not ask for it as the money was badly needed for other fields. The full amount was raised—everything paid for—and a few dollars left over."

Wanda Kuntz is a capable and devoted Extension Worker in southern Louisiana. Youthful and full of energy, she is a leader in young people's activities. In summer camp, in week-end meetings, in local

James R. Clinton, D.D., pastor-at-large

churches, she labors mightily. In late September, she wrote:

"We finally organized our church library and began issuing books this month. It looks small with only about a hundred books on the shelves, but already those who have read some of the books are contributing toward enlarging the library.

"One of our soldiers, who is in Africa, sent twenty dollars for our church library. So many of our church and Sunday School members have had no opportunity to do any of the right kind of reading."

Out of a busy life, J. Taylor Stanley, our Associate Superintendent of Negro Work in the Southeast, reports on many things. Here is his mention of a recent notable bi-racial gathering of white and Negro pastors:

"The first day of September found a group of 40 white and Negro ministers engaged in a two-day retreat for discussion and fellowship at Christian College in Franklinton, N. C.

"The group was about equally divided between the two races. All

J. T. Stanley, Assoc. Supt. in the Southeast

of us seemed to have come for the purpose of learning more about one another, and of discovering ways of meeting our common problems, particularly those having to do with race.

"The discussions were frank, but friendly; the contacts were genuine and unaffected, and I am sure we all left this meeting greatly helped because of this experience."

Here is the testimony of George Hankovsky, pastor of our Slavonic Bethlehem Church at North Braddock, Pennsylvania, concerning the stimulus received from a preaching mission conducted by our Pastor-at-large, Dr. James R. Clinton:

"Dr. Clinton was with us for one week in September. The church was filled to its capacity at all the services on both Sundays.

"During the week we had very good attendance, considering that a good many of our people work in three different shifts. We all, our church and the community, spiritually gained much.

"Once a person hears Dr. Clinton's timely, heart-searching messages, they want to hear him again and again. Even our older people, who understand only a little of an English sermon, knowing only the every-day common language, were greatly blessed."

Manifestly these are only samples from the note-books of a very few workers in our big home missionary family. But space does not permit our going further.

Many young men have gone forth from these preachers' homes into the armed services. One pastor had two sons at Pearl Harbor; another, a son reported missing on Bataan.

Send up a special prayer for these parents at Christmas time, for the boys so far away overseas, and for all the members of our great home missionary family and the churches and communities they serve!

HOLIDAY EDITION

You have all heard of the paper shortage! And the price of our magazine stock has increased twice in recent months. Production costs have also increased beyond the anticipation of the Budget Committee.

Therefore, to conserve and to coöperate in this time of emergencies, our December and January issues of the "Herald" and State Papers are combined in this one Holiday Edition.

Every subscription will be extended one month so that each subscriber will receive the ten issues of the magazine for which he paid. The February issue will be in the mails about January 20.

News and Views

BY ELLA G. SPARROW

There was no dimout on these Christmas decorations of our Briarcliff Manor Church, New York. (Below) The nativity scene is depicted by the young people of our Montclair, New Jersey, Church last Christmas

Wise men kneel before the new-born King in a Christmas play given by the serious students of our Congregational Latin American Institute

These gaily-costumed girls enjoy a Christmas party at the Italian Mission, Brooklyn, New York, in which Congregationalism has been interested

Reverence, adoration, worship are expressed through rhythmic movements, accompanied by lovely music, by these young ladies from our Church of Christ, Hanover, N. H. Mrs. Chester B. Fisk is their director

"O Come Ye, to Bethlehem"—on the opposite page: a group of soldier carolers and an Iceland hospital hut observe Christmas. Wherever our soldiers are stationed, our chaplains will hold appropriate Christmas services

Official Signal Corps Photo

OBSERVATIONS

OF THE MISSIONS COUNCIL MINISTER

A CONFERENCE like the Annual Mid-West Regional Meeting, held recently at Columbus, Ohio, provides a thermometer of the temperature of our churches and a barometer of coming weather conditions.

The temperature of missionary concern in the Mid-West area as evidenced in giving is steadily rising. The per capita giving to apportionment in 1941 was $1.14 per member, and in 1942 $1.43, an increase of 25%. The increase for the entire nation for the same period is 10.5%. The Mid-West has made an apportionment recovery of 51.6% from 1934 to 1942.

The barometer indicates fair weather for the immediate future. The tide of missionary interest is rising. In most areas money is reported to be more plentiful than for many previous years. A sense of the significance of the Church in world affairs is multiplying. Youth is refilling old wineskins such as "stewardship" and "missions" with the new wine of responsibility and action for a Better World.

The reading of the instruments is encouraging.

A number of significant trends were clearly evident throughout the main sessions of the Conference. Four of these were admirably stated in a small but vigorous and youthful bull-session.

1. A trend away from liberal humanitarianism or idealism to a faith and theology which gives a qualitative distinctiveness to Christian life and action. The adjective "Christian" is being re-charged with discriminative meaning.

2. A trend away from "service" in and of itself, or "missions" as a side-issue of the Church, to the building up of the "Body of Christ," the Church, which fulfills and completes itself in natural, normal Christian action on both a local and a world-wide scale. The Church is its own Mission and the World Mission is Church-centered.

3. An increasing awareness of the responsibility of the Church and church members in planning for the postwar world, and an appreciation of the fact that Christianity is the one solid foundation upon which a lasting peace may be built.

4. An appreciation of and demand for literature—respectable and modern—which tells the story of the Church in the fulfilment of its Mission.

To these should be added a growing unification of our varied service agencies, centering in the Church itself as the Spirit and Body of Christ active in the redemption and re-creation of the world. Missions is the Church engaged in Christian action, and Christian action is the channel for divine revelation, redemption and re-creation.

Group-interest gatherings are always a valuable part of a church conclave. We can mention only two items of interest that emerged.

1. There was evident rejoicing over the announcement of the rebirth of World Service Church Schools. A World Service Church School pledges itself to give definite missionary instruction at a definite time, to make a contribution to the missionary agencies of the Fellowship, to enroll with the State Office and appoint a correspondent. To these three basic requirements there was recommended a fourth, namely, that World Service

Dr. Boynton Merrill and the members of our First Church were gracious hosts to the many delegates at our Mid-West Regional Meeting held recently in Columbus, Ohio

Church Schools subscribe for *Children's Religion*, *Pilgrim Highroad*, and the *Envelope Series*. These three magazines will provide the basic materials for such schools.

2. A national Consultative Committee held its first session at the Columbus Meeting. This committee is set up by the Missionary Education Committee of the Missions Council. Its chairman is Dr. Paul E. Sylvester of La Grange, and the members are the chairmen of the State Conference Committees on Missionary Education or Benevolences, or whatever such committee may be called. This Consultative Committee will seek to relate the churches more closely to the Missions Council, and also to adapt the materials of the Missions Council more closely to the churches. The organization of this committee is a significant step in the plan of the Missions Council to widen the base of workers as well as of givers in missionary education and promotion.

Youth observed prophetically that in the Hon. Walter H. Judd of Washington, D. C. the new spirit of missions is to be seen at its best. Dr. Judd served as a medical missionary in China most successfully. When obliged to return home he applied his professional skill to the medical needs of his own community. Seeing an opportunity for Christian service in the United States Congress, he entered the election arena and is now a representative of the State of Minnesota.

The First Congregational Church of Columbus contributed generously a beautiful setting, well-nigh perfect physical and culinary arrangements, and a large measure of spiritual inspiration. Attendance throughout was splendid, particularly when considered in the light of travel difficulties and war busyness.

A. D. Stauffacher

Christmas Meditation

By Charles R. Brown
Dean Emeritus, Yale Divinity School

THE days are dark—how can anyone say "Merry Christmas" this year? Millions of people are facing persecution, starvation, battle, murder, and sudden death. Have all the leading nations of the earth ever before faced such a tragic situation?

But that first Christmas dawned on a saddened world. It was "in the days of Herod the king," and Herod was a rascal. The national church of Judea was steeped in formalism and insincerity. Religious leaders strained at gnats in their ritualistic observances, and then swallowed whole camels of evil-doing in their social practice. They made long prayers and then robbed widows' houses. The song the shepherds heard was not being sung along the banks of the Tiber, nor on the streets of Jerusalem. It was sung by angels in the upper air.

Men are saying today—some of them sadly, some of them scornfully —"Where is He that is born King?" But there are signs of promise. Has there ever been a time when so many millions of people took upon their lips "that name which is above every name," with reverent trust and earnest hope! Has there ever been so much readiness on the part of the strong to share the infirmities of the weak, and not merely please themselves? Have these varied social agencies ever shown so much active, generous coöperation, as they seek to relieve distress and to promote human well-being? The promised Messiah has come into the life of the world—and He is still coming.

What glorious pages of religious history have been written during these recent fateful years by the missionaries of our own American Board! By their heroism and fidelity, they have shown us that which causes our hearts to leap with gratitude and courage. By their patient devotion, they have been for years sowing the good seed of the Kingdom in these foreign lands. All the seed did not fall upon soil which was hard, or thin, or foul with weeds. Great quantities of it fell upon good soil and brought forth thirty, sixty, even a hundred fold. They have seen, and we have seen, the fine "fruits of the spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, fidelity, and self-control," growing out of those lives of alien tongue and birth. For nineteen hundred years, the Star of Bethlehem has been the brightest star in the sky. Those people who once walked the earth in darkness have seen that light which is "the light of the world," and their lives have been transformed.

I have traveled in India, in China and in Japan, in Turkey, in Greece, and in the islands of the Pacific. I have seen with my own eyes the abiding results of the service rendered by these faithful missionaries of the Cross. I have come back always to pray more intelligently and more earnestly for God's blessing to rest upon them, and to give more generously to the support of this magnificent service.

Student Planning Conference

BY CREIGHTON LACY

AGAINST the thundering backdrop of a world at war, with the challenge of peace in the distance, Christian youth of North America are marshalling their forces for a Student Planning Conference on the World Mission of the Church.

Sponsored by four coöperative organizations, and continuing in the historic tradition of Student Volunteer Movement Quadrennials, it will be held at the College of Wooster, Ohio, from December 28 to January 3.

A unique program of successive seminars will permit all delegates to discuss three great areas of life service: the world, North American problems, and Christian vocation. Subordinate groups representing more specific national, social, and vocational interests will pool their findings in Student Panels before the entire assembly.

Miss Ruth Isabel Seabury, of our own American Board, will direct the summary of the World Seminar, and each discussion group will include a number of resource leaders with wide experience in the field concerned.

Among the speakers to address the plenary sessions will be Dr. John R. Mott, world missionary; Congressman Walter Judd of Minnesota, former Congregational medical missionary in China; Professor Kenneth S. Latourette of Yale University; Professor Henry P. Van Dusen of Union Theological Seminary; Dr. Edwin Espy, National Student Secretary of the Y.M.C.A.; and Dr. Winburn Thomas, new secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement.

Because of the difficulties of transportation and accommodation, the number of delegates is strictly limited to five hundred students.

Student conferences afford valuable opportunity for discussion and program planning

Thus the relatively small number who will actually attend places a correspondingly greater responsibility on all religious groups to extend its influence into every Christian program. Study books are available from the Conference office, Room 1121, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City 10.

It is hoped that churches and colleges of North America will share this preparation through study and prayer, reaping its benefits through discussion and work. Only thus will it have full significance as a Student Planning Conference on the World Mission of the Church.

Creighton Lacy is assistant director of publicity for the Wooster Conference and a student at Yale Divinity School.

TALES OUT OF SCHOOL

By Harry Thomas Stock

FROM Rachel Slayton, of the Franklin Street Congregational Church, Manchester, N. H., comes a story of how "the usual offering" for a social agency for children was made a significant religious experience.

Fifth-grade pupils gathered information regarding what the organization did, how much it cost, and how others could help.

Ten healthy boys and girls visited one of the convalescent homes, talked to the children who could not run and play, saw the beautiful things they had made with their hands, and sang together some songs that both groups had learned on Sundays.

On the way home the leader heard such remarks as these:

"Gee, could that boy do wood carving!"

"How could they be so happy when they have to stay in bed all the time?"

"Is that where our money has been going?"

"How can we tell the other kids about this?"

The answer to the last question was a simple play written during class and after church, rehearsed on afternoons and Saturdays. In the first scene the discussion centered in the question as to whether it was worth while giving up something for the sake of these sick children and that if they did they would be following Jesus who was portrayed in a picture that stood before them—"Follow Me," by Tom Curr.

By request, we present the author of this interesting monthly page, Harry T. Stock, one of the outstanding religious educators

Then four children came down and distributed the offering envelopes which were to be returned the following Sunday and dedicated at a special service of worship.

This was no "usual offering." There was a new appreciation of what offerings are, and there was a dawning of understanding of why the church is needed today.

Harry Thomas Stock is the General Secretary of the Christian Education Division of the Board of Home Missions.

FIELD FLASHES

BY DOROTHY P. CUSHING

MOTHER TAKES ON ANOTHER JOB

PEOPLE in Montana know what is meant by "wide open spaces." Mrs. Clarence L. Covell met the mother of a family which had moved out to the country and whose children could not possibly attend a regular Sunday school. The mother expressed deep concern as she explained the situation. "Why don't you teach them yourself?" asked Mrs. Covell. Then she offered to send the mother material and teaching help. So, once a week around the dining table the youngsters gathered for Bible lessons. Then, neighbors' children came in. Now a Sunday school of 40 meets at this home.

"MILORD" COMMENDS

THERE was a great day recently in Mt. Silinda, East Africa. The Pathfinders (African version of our Boy Scouts) formed a guard of honor to welcome Sir Evelyn Baring, Governor of Southern Rhodesia, and Lady Baring on their *first* visit to our Mission. The pupils, teachers, and missionaries of Mt. Silinda Institute, with nearby European residents and many of the African community, gave the distinguished guests a hearty welcome. Speaking with undoubted sincerity words of praise for the American Board work, Sir Evelyn said: "Wherever I have found a fine piece of work through the colony there I have found Mt. Silinda trained nurses or teachers."

COMPETES WITH INGERSOLL

WITH lunch and 30 Gospels tied to his bike, Rev. Lloyd L. Lorbeer of Pasumalai, India, started out on a Sunday of village visitation. At a lively crossroads he showed his wares and soon the crowd shoved their half cent coins into his hands. In ten minutes he had sold out his Gospels—and still hands were outstretched. "I could have sold 100 copies easily, all to Hindus and Moslems," he reports. "Their interest in the life of Christ is very gratifying." At the same time, however, admiration for things Russian and for Communism is growing in India, he adds. One Hindu father named his three sons Karl Marx, Lenin, and Ingersoll.

DR. POND SAW CLEARLY

THE Chinese Consul General and Dr. Harley H. Gill of San Francisco spoke this summer at a significant anniversary service in the big Chinese Church of that city where Rev. Bing Ye Leong is pastor. The church was celebrating its 70th birthday anniversary. In 1873 Dr. William C. Pond had wanted to receive Chinese students into his fellowship. There was so much opposition that he resigned, and with 17 other members started an interracial church for Americans and Chinese. By 1902 the Chinese had their own church. Following the 1908 earthquake the Chinese themselves gave $30,000 for a new building.

ROMANS 16-5

FOR the sake of distant isolated ranches the People's Congregational Church in Sidney, Montana, broadcasts all its Sunday morning services. As he preaches, Rev. Kirk M. Dewey is conscious that families miles away are worshipping with him in their own living rooms. One day, as he made a purchase in a store, he spoke in friendly fashion to a woman customer near by. A moment later the clerk mentioned Mr. Dewey by name. The woman's face lighted up, and she told the minister how much his radio service meant to her, since she lived too far away to attend church regularly. Soon after, Mr. Dewey offered to send material for Christian education of children to any radio listener who requested it.

A SCHOOL IN SEARCH OF A SCHOOLHOUSE

THEY explored the villages of "Precious Chicken" and "Western Peace." They talked with officials and missionaries and townsfolk. Rev. James A. Hunter and Principal Cheng Chan Yu were seeking a home for the newly revived Lu Ho Academy. When, in despair, they were about to dig some caves in the loess hills, the English Baptists in Sian offered them accommodations. The new Lu Ho is truly union, with many of its 200 students coming from North China Congregational schools like Yu Ying, Bridgman, and Ming I. It has students from other schools, both mission and non-mission, and it is coeducational. Everything from chopsticks to chairs had to be provided, so the school bought wood and the students helped the carpenters build furniture. Fees were paid in grain or flour. "By the grace of God and the help of the American Board we believe we have a future," writes Mr. Hunter.

Even The *Bible* Is Rationed!

BY FRANCIS C. STIFLER

Corporal Russell Rude of 305th Infantry acquaints himself with the Book of Books

UNIVERSAL Bible Sunday—December 12—rides in this year on a new flood tide of interest.

And so great is the demand for Bibles today that one of the largest commercial Bible publishers has recently announced that they are compelled to ration their supply to dealers and customers!

The popularity of the Bible with the men at arms has greatly stimulated interest in reading the Book in the nation's homes. One boy wrote home:

"Out here I have had time to think. . . . Back home we went to church once in a while, but the fact is that the church and the Bible meant very little to us as a real force in our lives. . . .

"I am writing you, Mom, to ask you to read with me a chapter from the New Testament each day. I know that if I come back, the church and the Bible will mean more to us than ever in our lives."

You can be sure that in that lad's home they are "searching the Scriptures." And so they are in thousands of other homes where faith needs bolstering—and fears and anxiety drive sleep away.

Last year, 8,230,865 Bibles, Testaments, and portions of Scripture were issued by the American Bible Society—the greatest number in any year of the 127-year history of the Society. The distribution in the homeland on July 1 of this year was 66 per cent above that of the same period the year before.

The enormous popularity of the story of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions, adrift for three weeks on the equatorial Pacific, turned the attention of the American people to the efficacy of the Bible in

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Francis Carr Stifler is the editorial secretary of the American Bible Society.

war-time as no other single incident has in this or any war in which our nation has been engaged.

The Testament used on those rafts was displayed for months at the Bible House in New York. Three widely sold books have been written by Captain Rickenbacker and two of his companions on the rafts, and the story is now being filmed in Hollywood. The use the men made of the Bible is a prominent feature of all these presentations.

One of the results of the Rickenbacker incident is that the American Bible Society has furnished New Testaments in waterproof envelopes for every lifeboat and raft in the Merchant Marine, and many of those in the Navy, as well as for rubber rafts for Navy airplanes. Every party cast adrift at sea will find God's Word available, along with food, flares, fishing tackle and medicine.

This is a global war, and the Bible is a global book.

For the first time in its century of service, the American Bible Society is now supplying New Testaments in Spanish to the soldiers in the Mexican army. Although Scriptures are scarce in China, we know that many a little rice-paper Gospel is with the equipment of China's fighters, for China's rulers are ardent Christians.

For more than three years the American Bible Society has been supplying Bibles to prisoners of war in Germany, Poland, Italy, and elsewhere. These are issued from our office in neutral Switzerland, or by direct shipment from New York. Over half a million Bibles, Testaments, and Gospel portions, in thirty-four different

Mlle. Simone Mathie works at her desk in the Geneva, Switzerland, office of the Society

Bibles are furnished these Nazi prisoners who are interned for the duration in Canada

languages, have been put into the hands of these hapless young men.

Many thousands of these volumes have been in Russian for prisoners who have presumably been nurtured in the belief that religion was a harmful influence and the Bible a Book to be avoided. Evidence, however, has accumulated that the Testaments distributed to Russian soldiers have been prized above all else that has been supplied them.

In our own country, German and Italian Bibles and Testaments are being furnished to Axis prisoners of war, and a beginning has been made to supply our own prisoners now behind barbed wire in Germany and elsewhere.

The Bible is in the very thick of life today. And Universal Bible Sunday will be observed—December 12—as a nationally recognized event, supported by endorsements of the churches, Governors of the various States, and the President of these United States.

DANIEL HAND EDUCATIONAL FUND FOR COLORED PEOPLE

Total Income Received from Investments

For 5 months ending October 31, 1943—$28,850.79

PROFILES

LT. FRANCIS C. TUCKER of the U. S. Army, medical appointee of the American Board, is now in active service "somewhere in China." Lt. Tucker is the son of Drs. Francis F. and Emma Tucker, former medical missionaries of the American Board in North China.

Our Fellowship suffers a real loss in the death of Martin Welles of Hartford, Conn., on October 6, at Farmington, Conn. He was a Corporate Member of the American Board from 1909 to 1938 and Auditor from 1931 to 1938.

Tosuke Ota, pastor of our Japanese Church in Salt Lake City, Utah, has often been host to ministers from several of the Japanese Relocation Centers. The guests have preached at his Sunday services and been entertained by members of his congregation. He gave helpful guidance to church leaders from Topaz Relocation Center who came to Salt Lake City to find jobs for boys from the Center.

There are still some friends in the wide circle of our church family who do not know that Miss Mary D. Uline of the American Board became Mrs. Maurice Pratt Dunlap on June 30. Mr. Dunlap is a retired American Foreign Service Officer, an author, and now doing research at Harvard University. Mrs. Dunlap continues her work with the American Board.

Rev. and Mrs. Charles L. Storrs, formerly of the Shaowu Mission, China, received retirement status on November 1.

The Youth Recreational Board, Arkansas City, Kansas, recently elected John P. Weeke, pastor of our Pilgrim Church there, as its vice-president. This organization enrolled more than 600 youngsters in its various summer projects this year. The Congregational Church coöperated by offering its basement for a vocational guidance center.

Miss Annie Lyon Howe, "The Mother of Christian Kindergartens in Japan," died October 25 in her 92nd year in Rochester, New York. Miss Howe received in 1940 the Decoration of the Blue Ribbon from the Emperor of Japan in recognition of her services as a Christian educator. She served 37 years, retiring in 1928.

A daughter, Margaret, was born on October 11 to Rev. and Mrs. E. Walter Smith, of the Foochow Mission.

Our church in Smith Center, Kansas, whose pastor is Paul F. Bechtold, celebrated its seventieth anniversary recently. State Superintendent L. M. Rymph spent the day with the congregation. He met with the young people, presented the morning sermon, and participated in other activities, including a dinner to which members of other churches in the community were invited.

Study reveals a long list of American Board missionaries who have become proficient in nature lore. Mrs. Gladwyn M. Childs, of Dondi, West Africa, has made a plant collection which proved of great value to state botanists.

Rev. Guy L. Barnes, formerly of Polytechnic, Montana, has accepted a call to the University Church of Missoula, Montana. His work there began about September 1.

Miss Mary W. Riggs, member of a famous missionary family in Turkey, died September 25 at Claremont, California, at the age of 70. She

herself served as an American Board missionary in Turkey for 23 years.

Vernon L. Booker, Home Board missionary to Nome, Alaska, reports that his church is coöperating with the Religious Council of Nome in making a religious survey of the city.

Rev. Millard H. Marshall has resigned from the pastorate of the Union Church of Keeline, Wyoming, after serving there over four years, having accepted a call to the churches of Brockway and Intake, Montana. Mr. Marshall received his theological training at the Chicago Seminary. He was ordained in 1931, and before going to Wyoming he served churches in both Colorado and Idaho.

Robin White, fifteen-year-old son of Rev. and Mrs. Emmons E. White, of Manamadura, South India, and a student at Kodaikanal School for Missionary Children, has already declared his intention of becoming a medical missionary. "Are you sure?" asked his father. "Yes," replied Robin firmly. "Nothing will ever shake me."

Mrs. Martin Luther Stimpson, former American Board missionary to North China and Micronesia, died on June 22 at Rochester, New York, at the age of 85. She and her husband were the first representatives to North China of the Oberlin Band, where they founded the Shansi Mission.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Ross Thomas, missionaries of the American Board in Bombay, India, have reached home safely with their three children. Mr. Thomas serves as Treasurer and Business Agent of the Madura and Marathi Missions and as head of the Inter-Missions Business Office in Bombay. They came via South Africa, Australia and New Zealand!

Although a year and six months old, the birth announcement of Larry Scaff, son of Alvin H. and Mrs. Scaff, our missionaries in the Philippines under the American Board, has just reached Board headquarters.

The word of Larry Scaff's birth on April 22, 1942, came through an International Red Cross message from a missionary interned in Santo Tomas, Manila.

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Milestones

THEODORE C. HUME has given his life for Christ and the Church.

When the World Council of Churches called for a man to come to Europe to make ready for the vast after-war work of relief and reconstruction among the churches there, Ted responded.

He and his wife faced the alternatives.

There were their own five little children—but there were the thousands of children in Greece, Poland, and the other war-stricken countries, hungry and dying. There was their pleasant parish in Southern California—but there were a hundred parishes on the Continent where, unless aid should be brought, nothing would remain except the graveyards. There were the dangers by sea and by air—but what soldiers let their fears deter them? There was the ache of separation—but many families had been torn apart to provide for war: would not one family yield its man to provide for peace and reconciliation?

They decided that Ted should go.

He went as an emissary of the Congregational Christian Churches. His services were their gift to the World Council. The General Council sponsored him. The Council for Social Action arranged the details of preparation for his going. The American Board lent its coöperation wherever needed. The Committee for War Victims and Services met his expenses. He was the embodiment of our fellowship as it faced the future.

He was the living illustration of our belief that the Church of Christ, having one Lord, must live as one brotherhood. He was our sorrow for broken humanity: he was our pledge to make it whole.

While he was being flown in a Swedish plane to Stockholm, where he was to have taken up his work for the Ecumenical Church, the plane, attacked by an enemy flier, crashed upon the rocks of the Swedish coast, and Ted was killed.

Death seems to overtake some men: this man advanced to meet it, knowing that in God's eternal plan it could not harm him. He had a part in the ordering of his own destiny: he chose the perilous way because it led to a better world. He died with the light of that world in his eyes.

So Ted Hume takes his place in the history of the Church at its heroic best.

Douglas Horton

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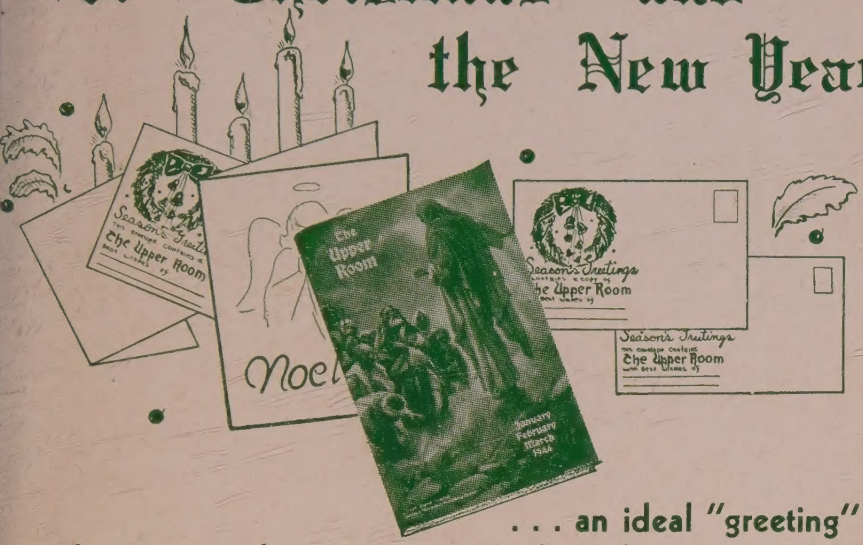
FUNERAL services for Miss Gertrude E. Kellogg, a missionary nurse in the Harwood Memorial Hospital at Fenchow, China, from 1919 to 1933, were held in the College Church of Christ, Wheaton, Ill., on Saturday afternoon, October 9.

Miss Kellogg, a sister of Col. Henry L. Kellogg, deputy director of the Illinois war council, died in Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago, from which she graduated with the nursing class of 1918.

Miss Kellogg received a master of science degree from Columbia University in 1925, and was also graduated from the Chicago Art Institute.

She is also survived by three other brothers, Col. Albert B., Claremont, N. H.; Thomas P., Wheaton, and Samuel A., Laura, Ill.; and two sisters, Mrs. John S. Congdon, Fort Collins, Colo., and Mrs. Amos Dresser, Wheaton.

For Christmas and the New Year



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